

Hon. Mr. SULLIVAN—There is no use appointing a committee if you do not give them power to re-arrange.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON—I do not think the motion of the hon. leader of the House should be disturbed, because it refers the matter to the committee and they will appoint a sub-committee to deal with it. Why should we ask the hon. Speaker to do the work we should do for ourselves?

Hon. Mr. ELLIS—I think it would be better to let the resolution go as it has been prepared, and if it cannot be arranged the committee can come back for instruction.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON—I move that the words 'to members having no rooms' be struck out.

The amendment was lost.

Hon. Mr. YOUNG—We should be willing to trust the committee with the management of the affair and let them make a disposition of the rooms which would be agreeable to all.

The motion was adopted.

PRAYERS IN THE SENATE.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON moved:

That a special committee of the Senate be appointed to consist of the Honourable Messieurs Templeman, De Boucherville, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, K.C.M.G., Loughheed, Robertson, and the mover, to confer with His Honour the Speaker respecting the prayers to be used at the opening of the Senate.

He said: When the former prayer book was given to the Senate, I believe the intention of the committee who selected the prayers was that the hon. Speaker might select from time to time some of the prayers that the book contained. I do not think it was ever mentioned that the whole of them should be read, and my idea is that certain portions of them should be read occasionally—have them varied and not have them all read every day.

Hon. Mr. DOMVILLE—I should like to call attention to the fact that although the prayers are largely taken from the Church of England prayer book, there is not a member of the Church of England on the committee.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON—With the consent of the House, I will add the name of the hon. gentleman from Rothesay.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN—Before the resolution is adopted, I should like a little further explanation than the hon. senator has given. To what does he object? Is it to the length of the prayer or simply to the sentiment contained therein? If it is simply to the length of the prayer, I do not know that it would make much difference whether we prayed five minutes or three minutes. I do not think it is proper to ask for a change in the prayers. They have done very well in the past few years and they will do for the coming years.

Hon. Mr. LANDRY—I think since my hon. friend's party has come into power we should say long prayers.

Hon. Mr. FERGUSON—I presume the names of hon. gentlemen have been inserted in this motion because they are regarded in some way as expert in this matter. Therefore it would be perhaps interesting to know what experience they have had in the framing of prayers.

The motion was agreed to.

REVISION OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE.

MOTION.

Hon. Mr. POWER moved:

That a special committee be appointed to consider and revise and if deemed necessary to add to the Rules, Orders and Forms of Proceeding of the Senate, and that such committee consist of His Honour the Speaker and the Honourable Messieurs Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Miller, Ferguson, Loughheed, Young, Tessier, Ellis, Béique, Kerr (Toronto), and the mover; with power to report from time to time.

He said: The rules under which the Senate now does business have been in existence for about eleven years, and, as is very generally the case, experience has shown that certain changes are needed. That is a thing which happens even in the most conservative body. In the House of Lords, after whom our proceedings are modelled, there are occasional changes in the rules. Those changes may be rendered necessary from two causes. One cause is that when the rules come to be put into practical operation it may be found that there is some doubt as to the meaning of a rule, and that has been the case, as hon. gentlemen know, with more than one of our rules. It is necessary that the exact meaning of the rules should be made clear. Another